

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 02520 132004Z

10

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 ACDA-05 ORM-01 SR-02 NIC-01 COME-00 EB-07

LAB-04 SIL-01 TRSE-00 /078 W  
----- 018990

R 131811Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7972

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 02520

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PL, GW

SUBJECT: FRG RELATIONS WITH POLAND

REF: WARSAW 743

SUMMARY: OUR FRG FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS CONFIRM THE  
GLOOMY VIEW OF FRG-POLISH RELATIONS REPORTED REFTEL.  
THEY SAY AMBASSADOR RUETE DID NOT GO BACK TO WARSAW WITH  
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PAGE 02 BONN 02520 132004Z

ANY NEW INSTRUCTIONS. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAS

ASKED FOR AN EARLY BRIEFING ON FRG-POLISH RELATIONS, BUT OUR CONTACTS DO NOT EXPECT THIS WILL LEAD TO NEW GERMAN INITIATIVES. END SUMMARY.

1. WE HAVE HAD AN EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION OF THE PRESENT STATE AND PROSPECTS OF FRG-POLISH RELATIONS WITH RESPONSIBLE FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIALS. THEY CONFIRMED THE VIEW CONTAINED REFTEL THAT AN IMPASSE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED. THE GERMANS HAVE NOTED RECENT UNFAVORABLE POLISH MEDIA TREATMENT OF GERMAN THEMES, AND AGREE THAT THE POLES HAVE PRESERVED A CERTAIN MODERATION THUS FAR. THE FOREIGN OFFICE FEELS THAT THE RELATIONSHIP WITH POLAND HAS NOT ADVANCED SINCE THE "HIGH POINT" OF THE OLSZOWSKI VISIT TO BONN IN DECEMBER 1973, WHEN THE TWO SIDES WERE NEAREST AGREEMENT. THEY SURMISE THAT GIEREK SUBSEQUENTLY HAD DIFFICULTY IN THE POLITBURO TRYING TO SELL THE RESULTS OF THE OLSZOWSKI VISIT, AND THESE DIFFICULTIES HAD NOT APPARENTLY LESSENED WITH TIME. THE GEHLHOFF VISIT TO WARSAW EARLY LAST FALL HAD NOT MOVED THINGS AHEAD.

2. OUR CONTACTS CONFIRMED THAT THE FRG WAS NOT REPEAT NOT PREPARED TO MEET POLISH DEMANDS ON INDEMNIFICATION AS SUCH. HOWEVER, AS THEY MADE CLEAR TO OLSZOWSKI IN DECEMBER 1973 AND HAD REITERATED SINCE, THEY WERE PREPARED TO LOOK CAREFULLY AT WAYS OF SATISFYING THE POLES THROUGH CREDITS AND PENSION ARRANGEMENTS. OUR CONTACTS STRESSED THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO GO MORE THAN HALF WAY TO MEET THE POLES. BUT, THEY SAID, THEY HAD SEEN LITTLE EVIDENCE OF POLISH DESIRE TO REACH A SETTLEMENT (THEY RECALLED THAT THEY HAD BEEN ABLE TO WORK OUT SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENTS TO TAKE CARE OF THE YUGOSLAVS IN A COMPARABLE SITUATION). ON REPATRIATION OF GERMAN ETHNICS IN POLAND, OUR SOURCES SAID THERE WAS SIMPLY NO EVIDENCE OF POLISH WILLINGNESS TO COME ANYWHERE NEAR MEETING GERMAN WISHES.

3. IN SHORT, THE OVERALL SITUATION WAS ANYTHING BUT PROMISING. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER HAD ASKED FOR A BRIEFING ON FRG-POLISH RELATIONS IN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO, CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 BONN 02520 132004Z

BUT OUR SOURCES DID NOT BELIEVE THIS WOULD RESULT IN ANY SIGNIFICANT NEW INITIATIVES FROM THE GERMAN SIDE. AT ANY RATE, THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR FRG-POLISH MATTERS AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE WORKING LEVEL WERE NOT PROPOSING NEW INITIATIVES. AMBASSADOR RUETE HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN ANY NEW INSTRUCTIONS ON HIS RECENT RETURN TO WARSAW. OUR CONTACTS WENT ON TO EXPRESS CONCERN THAT THE GOVERNMENT MIGHT NOT BE ABLE, FOR REASONS OF FINANCIAL

STRINGENCY, TO KEEP OPEN INDEFINITELY THE DM 1 BILLION  
CREDIT OFFER PREVIOUSLY MADE TO THE POLES.  
HILLENBRAND

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 13 FEB 1975  
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